Amendment and Response

Serial No.: 10/549,867 Confirmation No.: 4764 Filed: September 22, 2005

For: METHODS OF PROMOTING CELL VIABILITY

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the aboveidentified application:

- 1. (Previously Presented) A method of promoting viability of a transplant cell population comprising contacting the transplant cell population *in vitro* with an effective amount of a compound selected from the group consisting of ursodeoxycholic acid, a salt thereof, an analog thereof, and a combination thereof, wherein cells of the prepared transplant cell population are human dopamine neurons or precursors thereof.
- 2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein cells of the transplant cell population are differentiated dopamine neurons.
- 3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein cells of the transplant cell population are prevursor cells of dopamine neurons the precursors thereof are selected from the group consisting of pluripotent stem cells, embryonic stem cells, adult stem cells and combinations thereof.
- 4-6. Canceled
- 7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein contacting the transplant cell population with the compound comprises contacting the transplant cell population with the compound *in vitro* prior to transplanting the transplant cell population in a subject.
- 8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7 wherein the subject is a human.
- 9-14. Canceled

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- 15. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein contacting the transplant cell population with the compound comprises contacting the transplant cell population in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
- 16. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the cells of the transplant cell population comprise autologous cells, heterologous cells, or xenologous cells.
- 17. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the cells of the transplant cell population comprises at least a portion of autologous tissue, heterologous tissue, or xenologous tissue.

18-65. Canceled

- 66. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the ursodeoxycholic acid analog includes a conjugated derivative.
- 67. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 66 wherein the conjugated derivative is tauroursodeoxycholic acid.
- 68. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the dopamine neurons are human embryonic dopamine neurons.

69-77. Canceled

78. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the cells of the transplant cell population are embryonic ventral mesencephalic cells.

79-80. Canceled